

# REPORT

## NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

ON

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th May 1902.

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## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

Referring to the Nandigram police affair in the Midnapore district, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that Arrests in the Nandigram village. Babu Sris Chandra Ghosh, the Deputy Magistrate of Tamluk, is on the spot, with a large police force, investigating the case. Within three or four days some two hundred men and women, of whom eleven are Hindus and the rest are Muhammadans, have been arrested and placed under the custody of the police. People are being arrested indiscriminately and without any evidence of their having joined the riot. A simple hint from the servant of the late Sub-Inspector is enough to put fetters on a man. The police constables, who have been entrusted with the work of guarding the prisoners, are lording it over them. There is no place in the Nandigram village which can hold two hundred prisoners. The Deputy Babu should, therefore, look to their condition, else their sufferings will be great.

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

2. The *Dacca Prakash* [Dacca] of the 4th May says that thefts and other acts of lawlessness are rife in the well-populated village of Simulia, in thana Sabhar, in the Dacca district. On the 21st *Chaitra* last, thieves broke into the brick-built house of Babu Ram Kamal Shama Sunder and made away with Rs. 1,700 in cash and many valuable articles. The daroga of the thana once visited the house as a mere matter of form and told Babu Ram Kamal to do his best to recover the stolen articles. No police investigation is being made in such a big theft case. Will the higher authorities see to this?

DACCA PRAKASH,  
May 4th, 1902.

3. The same paper fails to understand why natives of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions should have been excluded from the competitive examination for Police Sub-Inspectorships in Bengal. When the Government of Bengal issued such an order of exclusion, it was thought that the order would have force for one year only. But alas! the rules, issued this year over the signature of the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, lay down that natives of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions would be eligible only for appointments under class B. It is impossible to imagine what justification there can be for making such a distinction. Certainly, natives of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions are in no way inferior to those of the other Divisions in intelligence, physique, or character. It is said that there are already too many natives of the Dacca and Chittagong Divisions as Sub-Inspectors of Police, and that is why they are excluded from the competitive examinations. If so, it would show that the Government does not seek to recruit the best available men for Police Sub-Inspectorships, and thus violates the very first principle underlying all competitive examinations, viz., the selection of the best, without reference to caste, creed, or colour.

DACCA PRAKASH.

4. The *Prativasi* [Calcutta] of the 5th May complains of the frequent occurrence of theft in Beliaghata, near Calcutta. Theft in Beliaghata, Calcutta. Rice is the principal article which is stolen in the place. The thieves muster in large numbers and are armed with *lathis*. Mahajans fear to oppose and even to bring cases against them. People fear to walk in the streets in the late hours of night. The local people know who are the culprits, but fear to divulge their names. It is hoped that the authorities will look to the matter.

PRATIVASI,  
May 5th, 1902.

5. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 5th May requests Mr. Luson, the District Magistrate of Midnapore, to institute a searching enquiry into the case in which Chand Garu, a dafadar under the Mayna Police outpost, was the complainant and Mahendra Nath Maiti, Kumar Mahapatra, Kanai Das, Gurai Mandal, Shibu Mandal and others were defendants, and which has recently been dismissed by Babu Sris Chandra Ghosh, the Subdivisional Officer of Tamluk. Sris Babu has severely censured the action of the police

MEDINI BANDHAV,  
May 5th, 1902.



in the case. A searching enquiry will bring the thing to light, and show that the case was one wholly got up by the police.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

CHARU MIHIR,  
April 29th, 1902.

6. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th April says that a lad of 15 or 16 years, reading in the 4th class of the Kishorganj Entrance School, has been appointed a juror. The boy's father, Babu Mahes Chandra Majumdar, of the Patuari village, is also a juror. This is, however, not a matter of surprise, considering that a chaukidar was appointed a juror some time ago.

SRI SRI VISHNU  
PRIYA-O-  
ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
April 30th, 1902.

7. The *Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-o-Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 30th April regrets that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has not yet replied to the telegraphic representation of Jeswant Gopal, of Midnapore, regarding the result of his case against Mr. Bayley. The writer requests His Honour to attend to this matter soon, as such miscarriage of justice, when a native complains against a European, is calculated to produce the worst results. To whom else would the oppressed people go for redress of their grievances?

JYOTI,  
May 1st, 1902.

8. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 1st May says that, although Babu Banamali Pramanik, khas tahsildar of the Cox's Bazar khas mahal, has been removed, there has been no improvement in the management of the khas mahal office or in the work of the subordinate officers. It was fondly hoped that the new tahsildar would set matters right; but alas! he is oppressing the tenants in a new way. He issues certificates for the realization of rent; but if any tenant objects, it is he again who hears and disposes of the objection. This is virtually trial of a case by the plaintiff himself. What is perhaps worse, the khas tahsildar is very much given to ordering attachment before judgment while issuing certificates for realisation of rent. Will the Collector and the Commissioner direct their attention to the mismanagement of the Cox's Bazar khas mahal?

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

9. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that complaints are frequent against the *Sadar* Sub-Registrar of Jalpaiguri. It is said that he causes inconveniences to people in many ways. His attention is drawn to the matter.

(d)—Education.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,  
April 29th, 1902.

10. Referring to the introduction of several Bengali text-books in the curriculum of study up to the 5th class in Entrance schools, the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comila] of the 29th April says it can hardly be hoped that this will help the students in acquiring proficiency in Bengali language and literature. How many ex-students of the Normal Schools are good Bengali writers, speakers, or poets? To be a good Bengali writer it is essential to know English and Sanskrit well. English ideas and Sanskrit words have combined to create and enrich modern Bengali literature; and all noted Bengali authors were or are men deeply read in English and Sanskrit.

JYOTI,  
May 1st, 1902.

11. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 1st May publishes a letter from the Head Master of the Chittagong Training School, announcing the abolition of scholarships to new students by order of the Director of Public Instruction, and says that this order will strike a death-blow at the root of primary education in the Chittagong district, where, considering the poverty of the people, such encouragement is absolutely necessary. The writer requests the Director of Public Instruction to reconsider his order.

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

12. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that on the 21st April last the Inspector of Schools in the Rajshahi Division issued an order to the Head Master of the Dinajpur Zilla School directing him to hold the



school from morning to 11 A. M., and not from morning to 10 A. M., as had formerly been the practice in the summer season. It will be 11½ or 12 for boys to go home after attending the school up to 11. The Inspector should have considered that this may seriously affect their health.

13. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May in announcing that the Government of Bengal has purchased 12 copies of Babu Haran Chandra Rakshit's "Tales of Shakespeare in Bengali," says that the encouragement has been quite inadequate, and falls far short of what could be expected from Sir John Woodburn's Government. "We are ashamed of it," says the writer. The work is the first of its kind in Bengali literature; and it cost the author eight years' strenuous labour and nearly four thousand rupees. The recognition of merit has, therefore, been a little too inadequate.

BANGAVASI,  
May 3rd, 1902.

14. Referring to the appointment of Mr. Man Mohan Ghose, Professor of the Dacca College, to the School Inspectorship of the Chota Nagpur Division, the *Dacca Gazette* [Dacca] of the 5th May says that one after another all the efficient Professors of the College are being transferred from it. Professor H. De alone remains to be removed to complete the dearth of good Professors in the College.

DACCA GAZETTE,  
May 5th, 1902.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

15. A correspondent, writing to the *Tripura Hitaishi* [Comilla] of the 29th April, complains that, although the authorities have repeatedly promised to re-excavate the insanitary tank in the neighbourhood of the Baburhat High School, in the Tippera district, nothing practical has been done as yet. He appeals to Mr. Scroope, the present Magistrate of Tippera, in the matter.

TRIPURA HITAIISHI,  
April 29th, 1902.

16. A correspondent, writing to the *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 29th April, from village Basha in Tangail in the Mymensingh district, complains that, although the zamindars of Santosh have written to the Local Board, intimating their compliance with the request for a grant of land for the excavation of a tank for the supply of drinking water, nothing has yet been done to commence the work. The writer appeals to the authorities of the Local Board to take up the work before the setting in of the rains.

CHARU MIHIR,  
April 29th, 1902.

17. A correspondent, writing to the same paper from Itna in the Mymensingh district, says that fever and cholera are raging furiously there, and people are dying for want of medical aid. He appeals to the authorities to establish a charitable dispensary there.

CHARU MIHIR.

18. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 30th April says that taxes have been enhanced in the Berhampore Municipality. Formerly, consideration used to be shown to those rate-payers who were in poor circumstances and, therefore, unable to pay the rates in full. But, unfortunately, such is not the case this time; and the municipal authorities seem determined to enforce their demands rigorously. The result is that petitions of objection are pouring in. Will the Chairman of the municipality be so good as to make a personal inquiry in each case, and reduce such burdens as may seem to him to be unbearable?

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
April 30th, 1902.

19. Referring to the working of the Burdwan Municipality, the *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 30th April says that *Padyapatha*, Part III, was first fixed as a text-book for the 5th class of the Burdwan Municipal School, but after it had been taught for eight days, it was changed for another. This sort of management is always bad, apart even from a consideration of the monetary loss caused by it to the parents of the poor boys. Such things were impossible when the school was under the management of Babu Nalinaksha Basu. Sometime ago the Chairman of the municipality sanctioned the supply of pipe-water to some houses. The owners of these houses accordingly engaged plumbers and fitted up pipes. Then it was announced that no houses, except those of Mati Babu, Sub-Judge, Gopal Babu, Sub-Judge, and Bhabatosh Babu, Deputy Magistrate,

PALLIVASI,  
April 30th, 1902.



would be supplied with water. The people raised great opposition. Songs ridiculing the municipality were composed. The municipality was then obliged to supply pipe-water to the houses in question. The Chairman of the municipality, Babu Debendra Nath Mitra, is not an unfit man, but he has little time to look after municipal affairs. He has to depend solely on his Secretary. It is better, therefore, that he should resign the Chairmanship.

SANJIVANI,  
May 1st, 1902.

20. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st May says that, although plague and cholera have broken out furiously in the Colootola and Sukea's Street sections of the Calcutta Municipality, nothing is being done to improve the sanitary condition of the *bustees* there. Heaps of refuse are permitted to remain and rot in the streets for days together, and noxious exhalations therefrom pollute the air. The conservancy carts are generally very much overloaded, and the droppings therefrom add to the general filthiness all round. The uncovered latrines in the *bustees* are a positive nuisance to passers-by. The cattle-sheds are the dirtiest imaginable. Will Dr. R. Sen and Dr. Prakas Chandra Lahiri see to all this?

JYOTI,  
May 1st, 1902.

21. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 1st May says it cannot understand why the tea-planters of the Chittagong district should have permanent seats on the Chittagong District Board. They are proprietors of only some waste land, and they contribute less than a hundredth part of the total road-cess money in the district. The utmost they can legitimately claim is to have one representative of the tea interest on the Board. Why are not the educated landholders and pleaders of the district nominated to the District Board? It is the system of nomination which is the cause of all this; and matters can be set right only by the introduction of the elective system.

MIHIR-O-SUDHAKAR,  
May 2nd, 1902.

22. The *Mihir-o-Sudhakar* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May hears that many poor plague-patients in Calcutta are dying without proper medical treatment. They have not the means to pay for skilful medical aid, and consequently they can avail themselves of the services of only men of indifferent ability. On the other hand, this class of patients are very much averse to go to Government charitable hospitals, where they fear they would not be cared for, and therefore would die. Of course, such a fear is hardly well-founded; nevertheless, it is there, and has to be taken into account. It is out of the question to be able to overcome this popular prejudice against Government charitable hospitals; and under the circumstance, there ought to be several centres in the city, where such poor plague-patients may resort for treatment with confidence, and all expenditure on this account ought to be met by Government. The Corporation of Calcutta has also a distinct duty to discharge in this connection. The several municipal district offices ought to have, attached to them, some Assistant Surgeons, with a proper staff of passed students of the Campbell and other Medical Schools, whose duty it should be to treat plague cases and distribute medicine free of charge, immediately on receipt of the report of an attack. Will the authorities consider these suggestions for the benefit of poor plague-patients in the city?

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

23. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that there being a prevalence of small-pox in some villages under the Barharva thana in the Sonthal Parganas district, the authorities are forcing the villagers to submit to vaccination. Women are being vaccinated by male vaccinators. In most cases vaccination is being attended with serious consequences and even death. People have been frightened. Twelve people have died of vaccination in the Rangatola, Khagarutola and Pitotola villages under the Rajmahal thana. The grandsons of Narayan Swarnakar and Nanda Mudi, inhabitants of the village Barheti, have also died of it.

NAVAYUG,  
May 3rd, 1902.

24. The *Navayug* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May says that rotten fish is regularly sold in the bazars of Calcutta. What do the Food Inspectors of the Calcutta Municipality do? It is hoped that the authorities will look to the matter.



(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

25. A correspondent writing to the *Murshidabad Hitaishi*, [Murshidabad], of the 30th April, says that the coolies of the Goalundo railway station demand exorbitant remuneration for their work. The correspondent had to pay eight annas for a luggage weighing not more than a maund. Luggages are weighed at the station before being carried to the steamer, and it is strange that passengers are made to pay for the quantity that they are entitled to carry free of charge under the Railway regulations. Of course, those who bribe the men in charge escape payment. Lastly, it is no easy task to purchase tickets and many pay something to the men who guard the approaches to the booking clerk's window. Will the authorities see to all this?

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
April 30th, 1902.

A railway complaint.

26. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that the name of the railway station between Lakshmiserai and Barahi on the East Indian Railway sounds obscene in a Bengali's ear and Bengalis feel ashamed to name it in the presence of their ladies. It is hoped that the Railway authorities will change the name. The station may be called Amhara after a neighbouring village of that name. There can be no objection to making such a change, as the name of another station was sometime ago changed from Nawadi to Jhajha.

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

(h)—*General.*

27. Mr Bilgrami writing in *Al Panch* [Patna City] of the 26th April says that even Hindus cannot deny that Urdu is the mother language of many people in India, including Hindus, and that it is not the mother language of only the Musalmans. It is so easy that even a foreigner can learn to speak it within a few months. In fact, Urdu is not the language of any particular race in India. All Court papers in Bihar, such as complaints, depositions of witnesses, deeds of sale, are written in the Urdu language and in the Kaithi character. Even man of business feels the importance of possessing a knowledge of Urdu. This Urdu language is sometimes called by foreigners Hindustani or Hindi. The Hindi Pracharini Sabha in its memorial to Government for the adoption of only Hindi text-books for Bihar schools does not mean by the word "Hindi" Urdu. Perhaps it means by the word "Hindi" Sanskrit or something like Sanskrit. If the prayer of the Sabha be granted, a great change will take place in the vernacular education of the province, and this change will in time prove an insurmountable barrier to the educational progress of Musalmans. We see that this petition of the Sabha is prompted by a feeling of antipathy to Musalmans. The Musalmans stood aloof from the Congress because they said that by joining it they would be losers. This was unbearable to the Congress men, who are now trying their best to put the Musalmans to trouble. We have therefore no hesitation in saying that the Hindu-Musalman quarrels on the occasion of the *Bakr-Id* and *Muharram* festivals are mainly attributable to the machinations of the Congress men. Musalmans are now being deprived of employment in the Government service. They are being kept out of Councils, Darbars and Municipal meetings. Can anybody say that all this is not the doing of the Congress men?

AL PUNCH,  
April 26th, 1902.

The question of the Bihar vernaculars.

28. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May writes as follows:—

What does increase of revenue mean in India?

From the moment that a nation loses its political existence, there arises a state of things in which it has to pay taxes not only to meet its own wants but also to meet the demands, great or small, of the sovereign power. Thus the revenue of the Government of India has not had its origin wholly in the requirements of the Indians; a part of it goes to meet imperial demands. So much of the revenue as is devoted to the removal of the wants of the people themselves has done them good, but so much of it as is appropriated to imperial purposes is lost to them. It is impossible, therefore, to arrive at a safe conclusion regarding the condition of the people of India from the present increase in the quantity of commodities produced in it, unless the quantity which is produced to meet only imperial demands, and which is, therefore, lost to the people, is left out of consideration.

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.



There is no denying the fact that a part of the revenue of the Government of India is appropriated to purposes wholly imperial. A sum of twenty lakhs of rupees is yearly drawn from the Indian exchequer to pay the salaries of the members of the India Council and the pensions of its retired members. India being subject to England, it is necessary that she should have a representative in that country. But this necessity concerns not only India, but England also. From this consideration alone, England should bear at least half of the expenses of the India Council. But England's connection is not less intimate with her colonies than with her Indian dependency. There is a large establishment in England with a Colonial Secretary and a large office at his back to look after the colonies. But England bears all the expenses of this establishment. She either thinks it wrong to take them from the colonies or is kept back from demanding them for fear of rousing a rebellion. Again, India has to bear expenses far more unjustly put on her than what she bears for the India Council. When the Shah of Persia visited England, His Majesty was sumptuously entertained by the English. But India had to pay all the money for that purpose. India has to pay the expenses of the English Consulates appointed in Asiatic countries to guard the commercial interests of the English people there. If it is said that India also has some commercial connection with them, it may be replied that the colonies are not exempt from such connection. But England fears that if the colonies are asked to bear a part of the Consular expenses, they will rebel. India had to bear the expenses of joining the Zanzibar island to Africa by a cable. The laying of this cable was wholly an imperial undertaking, because it had its origin in the fear that if the Suez Canal were occupied by an enemy, communication would be cut off between England and India. Not only India, but the colonies also are interested in the protection of the Aden sea-port. But it is India alone which is made to bear all the expenses of fortifying and garrisoning it. It is thus seen that the revenue of the Government of India is required more in the interest of the sovereign people—the English—than in that of the children of the soil. During the last twenty years the fall in the value of the rupee has obliged the Government of India to suffer great loss in paying the home charges in gold. The loss from the exchange compensation allowance only amounted to over 123 crores of rupees from 1883 to 1897-98. All this money was altogether lost to the Indians.

All this proves that an increase in the revenue of the Government of India does not necessarily indicate an increase of the prosperity of the Indians. The revenue has increased, but the increase has been demanded by imperial purposes, and not by the wants of the people of India who have to produce more commodities in order to meet it. Labour has, no doubt, increased, but poverty is not removed.

RANGALAYA,  
May 3rd, 1902.

29. The *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May says that the *gantidars* and owners of lots in the Sunderbans have been alarmed at the conduct of Mr. Sunder, their present Commissioner. Mr. Sunder is a young man and quite inexperienced in the sort of work he has been entrusted with. The Commissionership carries great power with it, which is liable to be abused in the hand of a young officer. Complaints of oppression are already being made against Mr. Sunder. The attention of the authorities is drawn to the matter.

#### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

HITAVADI,  
May 2nd, 1902.

30. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 2nd May says that Lord Curzon is said to have decided on bringing Berar permanently under the British rule, a sum of thirty lakhs of rupees being annually given to the Nizam's Government as compensation. The Nizam, sensible of his impotence, has accepted the terms of the British Lion with a smiling countenance. Should not the Nizam receive compensation from the Government of India for its having so long unjustly occupied Berar? Perhaps His Excellency has wisely asked His Highness not to look back to the dead past!



31. Referring to the arrangements which the Maharaja of Jaypur is making for his voyage to England in a strictly Hindu style, the *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May writes as follows:—

The Maharaja of Jaypur's voyage to England.

RANGALAYA,  
May 3rd, 1902.

We are glad that the Maharaja has realised the value of caste and incurred great expenses for its sake, and we thank His Highness for this with all our heart. But we are sorry that His Highness will at all go to England. His Highness is a Hindu Raja of India, and who will protect the Hindu religion, if not he? His Highness will make the voyage in a strictly Hindu style, but how His Highness's descendants will make voyages after him is a serious question.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

32. Referring to the death of the Hon'ble Mr. P. Nolan, the *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 30th April says that in the ranks of Bengal Civilians there are few who equal him in magnanimity. May God console the bereaved family!

The late Mr. Nolan.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
April 30th, 1902.

33. Referring to the collection of public subscriptions to the extent of five thousand rupees for the benefit of Mr. Horace Lyall, the tea-planter, who was sentenced to one month's simple imprisonment by the Calcutta High Court for having caused grievous hurt to a number of innocent coolies, the *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 1st May asks if it has been just or fair on the part of the Anglo-Indians thus to befriend such an offender? Was it at all an act of heroism or manliness on the part of a powerful European like Mr. Lyall to have mercilessly beaten a number of poor inoffensive coolies?

Anglo-Indian sympathy with Mr. Horace Lyall.

SANJIVANI,  
May 1st, 1902.

34. The *Jyoti* [Chittagong] of the 1st May says that while Commissioner of the Chittagong Division, Mr. Cotton used to visit the houses of respectable native gentlemen during his tours and made friends of many among them. He loved Chittagong with his whole heart, and the people of Chittagong knew him as their best friend, well-wisher and patron; and his name is now enshrined in their memory with the deepest veneration. When Mr. Cotton was Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, many respectable landholders and high officials of Chittagong used to visit him in Calcutta and consulted him on various important matters relating to their district. His doors were always open to the meanest native of Chittagong; and even in the midst of his heavy work, he found time to listen attentively to what a visitor had to say. He often made inquiries about his Chittagong friends, about their families and business, and about every important public movement in that district. He did valuable service to the people of Chittagong in connection with the survey work, and again when it was contemplated to incorporate Chittagong with the province of Assam. With Mr. Cotton's departure from India, Chittagong will lose its foremost friend and patron in the ranks of high officials; and it is hard to say if Chittagong will be so fortunate as to possess another such friend and well-wisher as Mr. Cotton.

Mr. Cotton and the people of Chittagong.

JYOTI,  
May 1st 1902.

35. The *Rangalaya* [Calcutta] of the 3rd May pays the following tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Nolan:—

The late Mr. Nolan.

RANGALAYA,  
May 3rd, 1902.

We have seen very few officials of the stamp of the late Mr. Nolan in ability, depth of knowledge, unfailing love for the people and care of those under him. He had great experience of the revenue work. It will be no exaggeration to say that there is at present no Civilian of equal experience and ability in revenue matters.

36. Referring to Mr. Cotton's enthusiastic reception at Shillong, the *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapore] of the 5th May writes as follows:—

Mr. Cotton.

MEDINI BANDHAV,  
May 5th, 1902.

Mr. Cotton has rendered good and great service to India. His last work was an attempt to ameliorate the condition of the Assam cooly. Although this attempt made the powerful tea-planters and the Anglo-Indian community his enemies yet it drew him closer to the hearts of the Indians, who will ever remember him as a true friend of India.



## URIYA PAPERS.

UTKALDIPKA,  
April 26th, 1902.

37. The *Utkaldipika* [Cuttack] of the 26th April states that there was a good shower of rain last week, that has kept down the rising temperature of the station.

UTKALDIPKA.

38. The Jajpur correspondent of the same paper states that there were rains in that subdivision last week, accompanied by strong wind, lightning and hailstones. Many houses in villages, situated near the Vyasa Sarovar station, were damaged, and the streams of the rivers Baiturni Bura, Kharsua, and Brahmini were swollen.

UTKALDIPKA.

39. The same correspondent states that cholera and small-pox are still raging in that subdivision, and that many children have died.

The Puri correspondent of the same paper states that there were rains in that station, accompanied by a violent storm, the force of which was, to the great delight of the people, spent in fifteen minutes and without doing any injury to life or property.

UTKALDIPKA.

40. The same paper states that the bed of the Mahanadi river is not within the jurisdiction of the Cuttack Municipality, and consequently people committing nuisance thereon should not be criminally prosecuted on the report of the police. The writer regrets that some such prosecutions were instituted and many fined, though contrary to the provisions of the law.

UTKALDIPKA.

41. The same paper is glad to learn that peace proposals have been made in connection with the Boer war, and hopes that the war may be brought to a speedy termination by the skill and forbearance of the negotiators.

The peace negotiations in South Africa.

UTKALDIPKA.

42. In giving a short account of the last *Muharram* festival in Cuttack, the same paper takes occasion to observe that insufficient food, coupled with want of leisure or energy, has told even on the constitution of the *Akhrwallas*, who, though not reduced in number, present an emaciated appearance.

UTKALDIPKA.

43. The same paper keeps up the agitation against municipal assessment by placing its columns at the disposal of a correspondent, who points out in detail that the assessor has assessed holdings that are not liable to assessment and has committed other irregularities, that have produced dismay in the minds of the rate-payers, who are flocking to the appeal-committees in numbers every day for relief.

The Cuttack municipal assessment.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 10th May 1902.